

REMARKS

Entry of the preceding amendments and consideration of the comments which follow is respectfully requested by Applicant.

Claims 19-24, 26, 27, 32, 33, 48, 54, and 55 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 6, 7, 11, and 13 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-15 and 51-53 are pending.

Claim allowance

Applicant notes with appreciation the examiner's indication of the allowance of claims 1-15 and 51-53.

Claim formalities

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's suggestion to delete the definition of "R₂" in claims 6, 11, and 13 and to delete the definition of "M" in claim 7.

Claims 6, 7, 11, and 13 have been amended accordingly.

Applicant also notes the Examiner's comment regarding claim 24; however, Applicant has now canceled claim 24.

Rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph

The rejection of claims 19-21, 32, 33, and 48 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, is now moot since those claims have been canceled by the present amendment.

Rejection under 35 USC §102(e)/103(a)

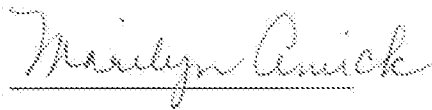
The rejection of claims 19-24, 26, 27, 32, 33, 48, 54 and 55 under 35 USC §102(e)/103(a) is now moot since those claims have been canceled by the present amendment.

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Applicant submits that his application is now in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration of his application in light of the present amendments and above remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this amendment to Deposit Account No. 02-2958. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marilyn L. Amick", written over a horizontal line.

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